



State of Wisconsin
Department of Workforce
Development

And



Invite you to the ***Eau Claire Labor Law Clinic!***

◆ April 9, 2009

◆ 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

◆ Plaza Hotel and Suites

◆ Eau Claire, WI

Agenda	8:00 a.m.	<u>Sign-in</u>
	8:30 a.m.	KICKOFF
	8:45 a.m.	<u>"Deciding Who Is Eligible for Unemployment Insurance Benefits"</u> <i>Laura Parker</i>
	10:00 a.m.	Break
	10:15 a.m.	<u>"Preparing for Unemployment Insurance Hearings"</u> <i>Charlie Schaefer</i>
	11:45 a.m.	Lunch (Included in registration fee)
	12:30 p.m.	<u>"Fair Employment Law Basics"</u> <i>Mark Robarge and Marlene Duffield</i>
	1:45 p.m.	Break
	2:00 p.m.	<u>"Preparing for Worker's Compensation Hearings"</u> <i>James T. O'Malley</i>
	3:15 p.m.	<i>Wrap-up, adjournment</i>
Time	Sign-in begins at 8:00 a.m. Program begins at 8:30 a.m. Lunch is at 11:45 a.m.	
Cost	\$75.00 per person. Substitutions allowed. PRICE INCLUDES: continental breakfast items upon arrival (juice, coffee, and rolls), refreshments at all breaks, and lunch; handouts for all presentations on the agenda.	
Site	Plaza Hotel and Suites, (Crystal Ballroom 1 & 2) 1202 W. Clairemont Avenue, Eau Claire, WI 54701. 715 834-3181 (Exit #65 off I-94, North on Hwy.37 to Craig Road, left on Craig Road).	
Registration	Complete and return the form that appears below. Seating is limited, so early advance registration is recommended. No discounts allowed for multiple reservations, missed meals, etc. Note: Last day for refunds or cancellations is April 1, 2009. Registrations not cancelled by this date shall be subject to full payment of the registration fee. If you wish to confirm that your registration was received or to cancel, call Sue Hennig at (715) 836-6564. Please keep all of the above information for future reference and return only the reservation form below.	

Please reserve _____ seats at the Eau Claire Labor Law Clinic at \$75.00 each for a total of \$_____.

Enclose full payment. Make checks payable to: **Eau Claire County Job Center.**

Name(s) 1. _____ 3. _____
2. _____ 4. _____

Company/Firm Name _____ E-Mail Address _____

Street Address or P.O. Box _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

TO REGISTER: Mail this form **and** payment to: Eau Claire County Job Center, Labor Law Clinic, 221 W. Madison St., Suite 140-B, Eau Claire, WI 54703-4410.

LLEAUCL

HERE ARE THE TOPICS TO BE COVERED:

8:45 a.m. “Deciding Who Is Eligible for WI Unemployment Insurance Benefits” Provides an overview of the primary issues affecting employee eligibility and employer liability for Unemployment Insurance benefits. Includes a discussion of quits, discharges, offers of work, work available, and how terms such as “able to work” and “available for work” are defined by UI. Offers an opportunity for the audience to ask, and get answers to, questions about how and why UI benefits are paid.

10:15 a.m. “Preparing for Unemployment Insurance Hearings” Provides a basic introduction to the appeal process, including how to decide whether or not to appeal an initial eligibility determination, how to effectively prepare for a hearing to ensure that the necessary evidence is presented, and what to do if dissatisfied with the decision of an Administrative Law Judge.

12:30 P.M. “Fair Employment Law Basics” Offers a straightforward look at the basics of the Wisconsin Fair Employment Law (WFEL). Introduces the audience to Wisconsin’s law prohibiting discrimination in employment and serves as a foundation for further discussion. Also addresses topics such as prohibited actions by employers, groups protected under the law, employing individuals with disabilities, on-the-job harassment, dealing with a WFEL complaint, and other concerns which the audience may raise.

2:00 P.M. “Preparing for Worker’s Compensation Hearings” Provides practical advice on receiving employee accident reports, communicating with insurance carriers, and investigating reports of work injuries. Discusses the benefits to the employer of timely reporting and investigation. Also explains the employer’s role at a hearing, including steps to follow when preparing and presenting testimony by the representatives of the employer.

HERE ARE YOUR PRESENTERS:

LAURA PARKER has been with the Unemployment Insurance Division since 2001. She worked as an adjudicator and is currently employed by the division as a Disputed Claims Analyst. In that capacity, she helps develop laws and policies for Unemployment Insurance, trains adjudicators, evaluates decisions using state and federal guidelines, provides technical assistance on complex claims, responds to inquiries from employers, claimants and the legislature and serves as one of the division’s acting Benefit Fraud Officers. She is a 1997 graduate of University of Wisconsin-Green Bay with a BA degree in Human Development and in Public Administration.

CHARLES SCHAEFER has been UI ALJ since Nov 1976, and has been assigned to the Eau Claire Hearing Office throughout that time. Charlie may be familiar to those in the area who have had UI hearings over the years. Charlie graduated from UW law school in 1976 where he focused on labor law. He got a BA with a Sociology major from the University of Iowa in 1971.

MARK ROBARGE has been an investigator with the Civil Rights Bureau of the Equal Rights Division since 1996. Since starting with Equal Rights, he has conducted investigations out of the Division’s Eau Claire field office. Mark has been employed by the Department since 1989, spending his first seven years with Job Service in Taylor County. He is a 1980 graduate of the University of Minnesota.

MARLENE DUFFIELD is the Madison and Upstate Investigation Supervisor in the Civil Rights Bureau for the Equal Rights Division of the Department of Workforce Development. She supervises sixteen civil rights investigators who handle the investigation of complaints of discrimination in employment, housing, and public accommodations and also under the family and medical leave act. Marlene has a master degree from the University of Illinois. She has worked in the private sector and been with the state for several years as a supervisor and in DWD since 1998.

JAMES T. O’MALLEY is the Director of the Bureau of Legal Services. He had served as an Administrative Law Judge with the Worker’s Compensation Division since July 1984 and since October 1989 as a section chief. From November 1976 to July 1984 Jim was an Administrative Law Judge in the Division of Unemployment Insurance. He also served as a member of the Executive Committee of the International Association of Industrial Accident Boards and Commissions from 1991-93. He is a 1972 graduate of the University of Wisconsin-LaCrosse and received his law degree from St. Mary’s University in 1975.

IS THIS YOUR FIRST CLINIC?

THIS DAY LONG CLINIC will include speakers from the Unemployment Insurance and Equal Rights Divisions with detailed information and practical guidance to help employers avoid violating state laws and rules in the topic areas on the Clinic agenda. This educational program contains information that will help employers prepare for state agency hearings and other administrative proceedings, if they become necessary. There will be ample opportunities to ask questions of the presenters, all of who are experts in the laws and programs of which they speak.

THE WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the provision of services or in employment. If you need assistance in using this service, please contact us. Deaf, hearing- or speech-impaired callers may reach us through the Wis. Telecommunication Relay System (WisTRS).

A schedule of future labor law clinics can be viewed on the Department of Workforce Development website at: <http://dwd.wisconsin.gov/laborlaw/>.